

BUCKS FREE PRESS

Wycombe Wanderers

v

Middlesbrough

A SPECIAL SOUVENIR SUPPLEMENT



F.A. CUP ROUND THREE



F.A. CUP ROUND THREE

F.A. CUP MIRACLE?



Wycombe Wanderers: Back row (from left to right): Dylan Evans, Keith Searle, Keith Mead, Paul Birdseye, John Maskell, Dave Bullock, Steve Parry; front row (from left to right): Tony Horsman, Dave Alexander, Howard Kennedy, Alan Phillips, Terry Reardon.



Middlesbrough: Back row (from left to right): Alan Fogg, Peter Brine, John Craggs, David Mills, Jim Platt, David Armstrong, Willie Maddren, Frank Spragg; front row (from left to right): Bobby Murdoch, Malcolm Smith, Jack Charlton (manager), Stuart Boam, John Hickton, Graeme Souness.

ARRANGEMENTS

WYCOMBE WANDERERS will be opening their gates at 12 noon tomorrow (Saturday). Once again, ticket holders are asked to arrive early and all turnstiles will be open to take tickets. The club have hired the services of the Thames Valley Police Band for entertainment.

Wanderers had a surprise this week when the Middlesbrough club returned 1,000 tickets for the game — they were originally expected to sell their share of 3,000 tickets.

These tickets were on sale during the Blues' friendly against Watford on New Years Day and also yesterday (Thursday).

The club has asked us to give a final reminder of the kick off time. It is now 2 p.m. and not 3 p.m. as printed on the tickets. This is due to the television coverage.

Wanderers all set for the match of the decade

WYCOMBE Wanderers, a club with a proud history spanning some 90 years, will be breaking new ground when they walk out in front of 12,000 excited spectators for tomorrow's (Saturday) F.A. Cup tie against Middlesbrough.

This match, which has kindled more interest than any other game since the 1957 Amateur Cup final, is the first time the club have ever reached the third round of the competition. To do it, they have had to beat Bournemouth, a Third Division side, away from home and before five other amateur clubs.

Their prize for that achievement is the visit of one of the finest sides in the whole of Great Britain — Middlesbrough. The 'Boro' deserve that title for the way they have performed in the First Division this season.

Many feel Boro's wouldn't cope with the additional pressures of the First Division. Charlton has proved them wrong. With the players available, he had blended them into a hard, talented and thoroughly workmanlike team that has shocked the footballing world this term. His record must be unique.

So just what chance have an amateur team got against one of the finest clubs in the country? Will it be a five or six goal lesson for Wycombe or can they hold their own in such distinguished company?

Wanderers have several things going for them. Firstly, there's the partisan crowd to urge them on, there's Lookes Park itself which will surprise the Middlesbrough players, and there is a belief in the home team that they can do well.

Against them, there are 12 highly trained professional footballers currently on the crest of a wave, who have been defeated only a handful of times this season and who are unlikely to lose this match at any cost.

The cards look heavily stacked against the Blues. On paper, they appear to have not even the

remotest chance of pulling off victory, perhaps not even a draw. They key to the whole question of tomorrow's game is in the difference between the amateur and professional world.

Wycombe manager Brian Lee has a glowing respect for that difference. He has stated on both television and radio: "We have no chance."

He watched Middlesbrough in action last week at Goodison

Park where they drew 1-1 with Everton. He feels their main strength is in their work rate and organisation. "Their success has stemmed from team work. No one individual impressed me. They have no prima donnas in their team, hard work is their key. I fancy them to reach Wembley and take the cup this year."

As for any weaknesses in the side, Brian replied, "I would not be too arrogant to suggest any weakness at all."

"I've got too much respect for Middlesbrough and professional football to fantasise about a Wycombe victory. Our great moment is that we're in the third round. I hope the town enjoy it. We'll probably get slaughtered and if we play at our best I expect to lose by three or four goals."

Latest team news from Middlesbrough is that their veteran midfielder general Bobby Murdoch will definitely not play. The ex-Celtic star began a two week suspension on Monday after going over the 12 point limit. His place will probably go to Peter Brine, who has the substitute's status.

Otherwise Boro's field their full strength side.

Wanderers will not select their team until shortly before the kick-off. One man unlikely to play, though, is Dave Bullock, who has his ankle in a

light plaster at present. Dave has been troubled by the ankle all season and chipped a bone in Saturday's game against Sutton.

Mick Holford, who broke his wrist in the Bournemouth replay, could well be in line for a return to the side after missing the last two weeks. He trained on Sunday and had an X-ray yesterday (Thursday).

The Wycombe players hold some hope of a good result. Two

of them — skipper Alan Phillips and full back Gary Hand — were in the Hendon team that were written off when they travelled up to play Newcastle in the third round last year. No one gave them an earthly, least of all Newcastle who paid the price for their over-confidence by being held to a 1-1 draw on their own St. James' Park ground. Newcastle won the replay at Watford comfortably but Phillips and Hand both learned from their experiences.

Wycombe's chances tomorrow. "Full, total concentration will be needed against a team like Middlesbrough," he said. "I feel we could be in with a chance of stopping them from scoring and the first 20 minutes or so will be vital. In the first quarter at Newcastle they slaughtered us but once we had held out, we began to believe in ourselves. There's no doubt Middlesbrough are a very fine side — but there's always a chance."

Gary Hand expects Middlesbrough to be a different kettle of fish to Newcastle. "They're more workmanlike. They had the stars at Newcastle and they thought they would outplay us completely."

"Hendon's result at Newcastle was no fluke and if we can nick one against Middlesbrough we could be in with a chance. An early goal would be crucial."

Wycombe's result at Watford was no fluke and if we can nick one against Middlesbrough we could be in with a chance. An early goal would be crucial."

BORO BY COACH

MIDDLESBROUGH are travelling down for the game by coach, setting off at around 11.30 to 12 o'clock on Friday morning and arriving at their Beaufield hotel about 5 o'clock.

On Saturday morning they plan to visit Lookes Park to view the pitch and facilities and then return to the hotel for lunch. After the game they will be heading straight back for Middlesbrough.

The Mayor of High Wycombe, Councillor Victor Lay has had to cancel plans for a civic reception for both teams after the game, due to Boro's prompt departure.

INDEX

Page 21 Meet the managers, full results and league tables plus action from the previous rounds of the Cup.

Page 19 A complete run-down on the Middlesbrough players plus the Bucks Free Press Soccer Competition.

Page 44 The history of Middlesbrough, a look back at some of its matches against Leeds United and a report of the Wycombe - Watford friendly.

Hull Loosley & Pearce Limited

HOME FURNISHERS

44 HIGH STREET MARLOW

BUCKS

TELEPHONE: MARLOW 3587

WINTER SALE

START OF SECOND GREAT WEEK

VINYL FLOORINGS

	List price	Sale price
6' wide Cushionfloor and Accotone from stock	£1.98	£1.65
4' and 6' smooth vinyl floorcoverings	£1.15	80p

Laying and fitting service available as an extra.

UPHOLSTERY

3 piece suite in pink dralon	£496.00	£396.80
4' and 6' smooth vinyl floorcoverings	£91.42	£73.34
1 only, 2 seater York settee in brown vinyl cover		£65.00

BEDS

2 only, 4' 6" Raydon Windsor mattresses	£55.75	£44.50
3' Season divan set by Raydon	£62.50	£47.00
4' 6" Slumberland Red Seal divan set	£98.00	£78.80
4' 6" Slumberland Purple Seal divan set	£85.00	£64.00
1 Fraser bunk set, with drawers under	£110.45	£85.00

MANY OTHERS AT MUCH REDUCED PRICES.

CABINETS

Florida, white bedroom furniture by Austinsuite, slightly soiled examples:

5 drawer chest unit	£59.10	£45.00
3 drawer chest unit	£46.70	£35.00
Kneehole dressing table unit	£42.00	£31.50
Mirror unit for dressing table or chest	£16.00	£12.00

Complete range of Florida is available at similar reductions.

REPRODUCTION FURNITURE by Jaycee and Mellowcraft, less 20% Mahogany dining room furniture by Beilbrock, less 20%.

Many other items of good quality furniture at very reduced prices.

CARPETING

Many room size remnants of Axminster carpet, many at half normal price. A good selection of heavy quality Axminster 27" wide at clearance prices. An assortment of rugs to clear from £3.95 each. All prices include V.A.T.

EVERY SUCCESS WYCOMBE WANDERERS

in the Third Round of the F.A. Cup against Middlesbrough

You can always be on the winning side with

W. BURCH & SON

208 WEST WYCOMBE ROAD, HIGH WYCOMBE

who will be pleased to advise you on your LIFE INSURANCE CAR INSURANCE HOUSEHOLD INSURANCE MORTGAGE.

Contact us NOW and we will be pleased to formulate the right cover and policy for you.

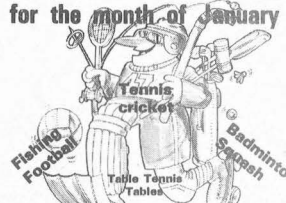
Telephone HIGH WYCOMBE 24303

Castle Sports & Tackle

40 Castle Street, High Wycombe, Bucks.

Telephone High Wycombe 21601

At least 15% off all goods for the month of January



Save money whatever your sporting interests by calling in now



BUCKS FREE PRESS

Wycombe Wanderers

V

Middlesbrough

A SPECIAL SOUVENIR SUPPLEMENT



Meet the Middlesbrough players



JOHN CRAGGS, right back, the club's record signing at £260,000. Highly talented player who likes to overlap.



FRANK SPRAGGON, left back, extremely reliable player who joined the club straight from school.



WILLIE MADDREN, centre back, England Under-23 player. Middlesbrough's "Mr. Dependable."



STUART BOAM, centre back, the club captain and one of the most reliable centre defenders in Division One.



JIM PLATT, the Middlesbrough goalkeeper and a Northern Ireland Youth cap. Ever-present in last year's title-winning team.



BOBBY MURDOCH, midfielder, former Celtic star with eight Scottish First Division championship medals.

A COMPLETE CHECK ON CHARLTON'S CHAMPIONS

MIDDLESBROUGH will select their 12 for tomorrow's third round F.A. Cup tie at Lookers Park, from a squad of 16 players. Here's a complete run-down in Jack Charlton's First Division men.

JIM PLATT (goalkeeper): A regular in the Second Division championship-winning side and a possible successor to Tottenham's Pat Jennings in the Northern Ireland international side. Has already played for his country at youth and amateur international level. A bargain £7,000 buy from Ballymena — with a £1,000 bonus thrown in after a dozen appearances.

A six-foot, powerfully-built player who uses his height to good advantage. Has virtually been an ever-present since he won his place. In Northern Ireland look to the future, and the 1978 World Cup, Platt could come into the international reckoning soon.

JOHN CRAGGS (right back): At £260,000, the club's record signing. Made the short journey from Newcastle United to Ayresome Park and has continued to demonstrate his class. Jack Charlton rates him as the best attacking right back in the business. Craggs has clever ball control for a full back. Uses this and his speed to prompt many attacks. A talented player to watch.

FRANK SPRAGGON (left back): A long-serving player, is having his testimonial season, with the promise of a bumper pay night in an end-of-season match against Sunderland. A former left half, he has adjusted well to his more defensive role.

A solid and reliable player who joined the club straight from a Durham County school. Is the son-in-law of Harold Shepherdson, the former England trainer and Middlesbrough's assistant manager.

GRAEME SOUNESS (right half): One of the club's best bargain buys in recent years. The Boro' picked him up for £30,000 from Spurs two seasons ago. At White Hart Lane, Souness could not break into the big-star squad. Since his move to the North-East, the Scot has blossomed into a star in his own right.

Has won Scottish Under-23 and full international honours. Could be on the international scene for many years. An artist in midfield.

STUART BOAM (centre half): A towering defender and captain. Led the Boro' to the Second Division title last season. Joined

the club from Mansfield Town, where his displays had attracted attention from First and Second Division clubs.

Middlesbrough moved in while others hesitated. Have never regretted their decision — or the £250,000 cheque. His value has soared since.

WILLIE MADDREN (left half): A local product who has won England Under-23 honours and forced his way into Don Revie's senior squad. A player who could win full international honours before he is very much older.

With Boam, he forms an outstanding defensive partnership. A player noted for his 100 per cent reliability rather than for flamboyance. A professionals' player and rated Mr. Dependable by Boro' fans.

BOBBY MURDOCH (outside right): A legendary figure in the great Celtic side. Won everything that was going including eight First Division championship medals and a European Cup medal.

Once rated "the best wing half in Europe" by Celtic manager Jock Stein. Given a free transfer as a thank-you gesture for his wonderful service, the Scottish international won another championship honour last season with Middlesbrough. A player of experience and midfield skill, noted for his accurate distribution.

Misses tomorrow's game due to a two week suspension which began on Wednesday.

JOHN HICKTON (inside right): A multi-purpose player, who has given the club tremendous service since his 1966 signing from Sheffield Wednesday. Has played in several positions with distinction.

At one time, Hickton was the most feared striker in the Second Division. Now he concentrates on a team role. A veteran, who is holding his place on merit.

DAVID MILLS (centre forward): A young England player rated to have "a tremendous future" by Don Revie. The England boss went overboard after his Under-23 display against Czechoslovakia, at Crystal Palace, earlier this season.

A local "discovery", who was once the target of boo-bos at Ayresome Park. Has since silenced his critics with his unselfish team play, skill and scoring power. Noticeable that the team hit a lean spell while he was on the injured list.

ALAN FOGGON (inside left): A former Newcastle United wonder boy — he won an Inter Cities Fairs Cup medal at the age of 18. After that his soccer career nosedived and Cardiff City offered him to potential buyers for £10,000.

Only Middlesbrough had the courage to rescue him from oblivion. The player has since repaid them handsomely and is now one of the leading First Division goalscorers. A fast-raiding, determined striker.

DAVID ARMSTRONG (outside left): At 19, the "babe" of the side. A Durham County "discovery" who has progressed from the junior ranks. Won his first England Under-23 cap in Portugal earlier this season.

Jack Charlton rates him "one of the best left-sided players in the game." Top judges in the game predict he will win a full England place in two years — and stay in the team.

ALAN WILLEY (centre forward): Had an outstanding First Division debut as a 17-year-old earlier in the season against Manchester City. Scored his first goal against Wolves as a second-half substitute shortly after.

A knee injury received with the England youth international team put him on the sidelines for a while, but this quick-moving forward has since returned to the first-team squad.

HARRY CHARLTON (midfield): Also born in the North-East, but no relation to the Boro' manager. A clever ball player who deputised for Murdoch in November, then went down with illness.

PETER BRINE (midfield or forward): A Londoner, whose father was born and bred in Middlesbrough. Started in two recent games but then stood down when Murdoch returned after injury.

Likely to take the place of Murdoch in midfield.

MALCOLM SMITH (centre forward): With Brine, shared the substitute's role in the championship season. An aggressive, hard-running type of player who has a good scoring record.

BRIAN TAYLOR (defensive wing half): A solid, dependable six-footer from the Workop area. Chances are restricted through the reliability of Boam and Maddren but Charlton would not hesitate to call on him.



GRAEME SOUNESS, midfielder, a bargain buy from Spurs. Scottish international with a tremendous future.



JOHN HICKTON, forward, eight years with the club and a consistent goalscorer. Now in the veteran stage of his career.



ALAN FOGGON, forward, ex-Newcastle and Cardiff player who is now one of the leading scorers in the First Division.



DAVID ARMSTRONG, forward, England Under-23 cap, only 19-years-old. Another player with tremendous future.



DAVID MILLS, forward, has silenced his critics with some fine displays recently. Young England player.



PETER BRINE, midfielder/forward, played two recent games but has since given way to Murdoch, who returned from injury.



ALAN WILLEY, forward, possible substitute tomorrow, an England Youth team player.

The Bucks Free Press soccer competition

THE Bucks Free Press are offering you the chance to win the match ball used by Wycombe Wanderers and Bournemouth in the F.A. Cup second round match which ended in a 0-0 draw. The ball, which has been specially autographed by both teams will serve as an everlasting memento of the game, is the top prize in a special three week competition. The second section of 10 questions appears below.

There are also other prizes for the next three correct entries which will be presented to the winners at the Blues' next home match after January 15.

All you have to do is fill in the answers in the space allocated and send your second form to the address below by January 8. The third and final set of questions will appear in the 'Free Press' on January 10.

Closing date for entries is January 14.

COMPETITION RULES

1) Officials and players of Wycombe Wanderers F.C. are not permitted to enter the competition.

2) Employees of the Bucks Free Press are not permitted to enter the competition.

enter the competition.

3) There is no limit to the number of entries sent by any one person.

4) The organisers reserve the right to make any dis-

qualifications necessary.

5) The closing date for the competition is January 14, 1975. Entries received after that date will not be accepted.

All entries to be sent to: Soccer Competition, Sales Promotion Dept., Bucks Free Press, Gomm Road, High Wycombe, Bucks.

QUESTIONS

- 1) Name the club who last defeated Wycombe at Lookers Park in a League game.
- 2) Give the individual scores for each game against Bedford during Wycombe's F.A. Cup run in 1966.
- 3) Who was the manager to steer Wycombe to the Amateur Cup semi-final at Doncaster in 1957?
- 4) Who kept goal for Wycombe in the 1931 Amateur Cup Final at Highbury?
- 5) In season 1959-60, Wycombe were drawn away to Watford in the F.A. Cup 2nd round. What was the final score?
- 6) Who was the last team to defeat Wycombe in the last ever Amateur Cup Competition?
- 7) Give the name of the ground where Wycombe went down in the 3rd Qualifying round of the F.A. Challenge Trophy.
- 8) What season did Wycombe Wanderers gain entry to the Isthmian League?
- 9) Name the Wycombe centre-half who captained Wales in the early 60s.
- 10) Name the team Wycombe defeated in the 3rd round of the Amateur Cup during their run to the final in 1957.

ANSWERS

Entrant's name and address

Tele:

